Steps taken for exchange of India-Bangladesh Enclaves

2756. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken for the exchange of India and Bangladesh enclaves as provided for in Indira-Mujib Agreement of 1974 and Tin Bigha Agreement of July, 1993;

(b) if so, what has been the progress in the matter;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government have any reports regarding inhabitants of Indian enclaves; and

(e) if so, what is the content of the reports and whether any remedial action have been initiated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) Efforts have been underway to secure a full implementation of the Indo Bangladesh and Boundary Agreement 1974, including the exchange of enclaves.

(d) and (e) According to the provisions of the 1974 Agreement, the exchangeable enclaves of India are to be absorbed into Bangladesh and of Bangladesh into India, without any claim of compensation. Considering that India does not exercise control over and access to the said enclaves in Bangladesh and vice versa. Government is in no position to have reports regarding the situation in these enclaves. Facilities would be provided to the inhabitants of these enclaves. Facilties would be provided to the inhabitants of these enclaves by the Bangladesh Administration in the long term.

Representation from Indian Medical, Dental and Engineering students of erstwhile USSR

2757. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been many representations to out Embassy at Moscow from Medical, Dental and Engineering students, pursuing their studies in the erstwhile U.S.S.R.;

(b) if so, what are the details;

(c) how do Government propose to sort out them; and

(d) what action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) The Embassy of India in Moscow from time to time receives requests from Indian students studying in the Russian Federation and in CIS countries for facilitating their education in Russia.

(c) and (d) When warranted, the Embassy intercedes on behalf of the students concerned with the relevant educational institutions in the Russian Federation, as well as the Russian State Committee on Higher Education.

भारत में पाकिस्तान के अस्थायी वीसा कार्यालय

2758. **श्री अजीत जोगी:**
चौधरी हरि सिंह:

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या देश में पाकिस्तान के अस्थायी वीसा कार्यालय कार्य कर रहे हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने वीसा हाऊस के संबंध में पाकिस्तान के अनुरोध पर कोई निर्णय ले लिया है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर० एल०

पाटिया): (क) से (घ) जी, नहीं। 10 जनवरी, 1993 को पाकिस्तान को यह बता दिया गया था कि अब पाकिस्तान को दिल्ली और बंबई से बाहर के अस्थायी वीजा कार्यालयों से काम करने की इजाजत नहीं होगी और यह भी कि अब उसे इनके बजाय उसे अपना वीजा का काम नई दिल्ली स्थित हाई कमीशन से तथा बंबई स्थित प्रधान कोंसलावास से करना चाहिए।

Complaints of Harassment by Indian Labourers Working Abroad

2759. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been receiving regular complaints of harassment of Indian labourers working abroad;

(b) whether Government have any cell to monitor and redress their grievances; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of India through Indian Missions abroad maintains regular contact with foreign Governments to ensure the welfare and to improve conditions of Indian workers in the respective countries. The Indian Missions at first try to resolve the differences between the aggrieved worker and the employer to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution. Wherever necessary, cases are taken up with the concerned authorities of the foreign Government to persuade the employers to redress the grievances of Indian workers. Where no alternative employment or any solution is possible despite best efforts of the Mission, all assistance is given to facilitate repatriation of the aggrieved worker.

The Ministry of Labour through the Office of Protector General of Emigrants maintains a public hearing system at their Headquarters in New Delhi and also at six regional offices to redress grievances and complaints or to impart any information on various aspects of emigration, twice a week.

Statement made by foreign Secretary

2760. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as reported in the Indian express of 2nd December, 1993 the Foreign Secretary had indicated that India was willing to discuss with Pakistan "some compromise" to resolve the Kashmir issue in a "practical and realistic manner" taking mutual concerns into account; and

(b) if so, what was the precise nature and content of the "compromise" indicated by Foreign Secretary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Foreign Secretary, in an interview with Asianet, on 27-11-1993, reiterated Government's commitment to resolve all differences with Pakistan peacefully and through bilateral negotiations in accordance with the Simla Agreement and that at the Foreign Secretary-level talks scheduled to be held at Islamabad from 1—3 January, 1994, Government would endeavour to reason with Pakistan to move towards a mutually acceptable settlement of differences relating to the Jammu and Kashmir issue.

Land route facility to Arab countries via Pakistan

2761. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would take up with Pakistan a land route facility to